United Nations DP/2018/18

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services

Distr.: General
19 June 2018

Original: English

Second regular session 2018
4 to 7 September 2018, New York
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Organizational matters

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session 2018

Contents

Annual session 2018
(4 to 8 June 2018, New York)

Number		*Page*
2018/5	Report of the UNDP Administrator on results for 2017 and progress on the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021	2
2018/6	UNDP evaluation	3
2018/7	Report on results achieved by the United Nations Capital Development Fund in 2017	4
2018/8	United Nations Volunteers programme: Report of the Administrator	5
2018/9	Draft revised UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021	5
2018/10	Annual report of the UNFPA Executive Director	6
2018/11	UNFPA evaluation	8
2018/12	Annual report of the UNOPS Executive Director	8
2018/13	Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigations and management responses	9
2018/14	Reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS	11
2018/15	Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session 2018	12

2018/5
Report of the UNDP Administrator on results for 2017 and progress on the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the achievements made by UNDP in 2017, the cumulative performance of UNDP for the period 2014-2017 and progress made on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 (DP/2018/10);

2. *Urges* UNDP to utilize lessons learned from the Strategic Plan, 2014-2017 in the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 to meet the annual milestones and targets set out in the integrated results and resources framework (IRRF) for all development and institutional effectiveness outputs;

3. *Recognizes and welcomes* the progress in populating the IRRF for the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 and requests UNDP to continue to refine and improve the IRRF as it continues to implement its Strategic Plan;

4. *Recognizes* the inter-agency efforts being made to advance the common chapter and requests UNDP to continue consultations with United Nations funds and programmes on the harmonized format for common chapter reporting;

5. *Welcomes* the mentioning of the common chapter in the annual report and asks UNDP to report on the status of the implementation of the common chapter, starting with the annual report 2019, and to present the findings at the joint meeting of the Executive Boards and at the annual session;

6. *Recognizes and welcomes* the strategic engagement and financial contribution of UNDP to the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) and United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), and requests the Administrator of UNDP, in case of the need for additional information, to provide annual updates to reflect the results achieved by these contributions in an annex to the annual report, to ensure that the UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations and Independent Evaluation Office include UNCDF, UNV and UNOSSC in their workplans and to provide an update to the Board on progress by the second regular session 2018 to help inform deliberations;

7. *Expresses appreciation* to UNDP for its longstanding and strong commitment and support to the resident coordinator system and back-office support to United Nations country teams, and acknowledges the importance of UNDP country support platforms and support to countries in their efforts to realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Requests* UNDP to continue to engage with the Secretary-General, other United Nations development system (UNDS) entities and Member States with a view to support full implementation of General Assembly resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its contribution to a smooth transition and business continuity of the resident coordinator system;

9. *Requests* UNDP, as a UNDS entity, to engage closely with the Secretary-General and Member States to support preparation of a well-thought-out implementation plan for the inception of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including on the operationalization of its funding arrangements, to be presented to the General Assembly;

10. *Also requests* UNDP to present a preliminary analysis of the financial and other implications of resolution 72/279 for UNDP to the Executive Board at the second regular session 2018;

11. *Further requests* UNDP, in accordance with resolution 72/279, to provide its contribution to the adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system, in line with the forthcoming implementation plan for the inception of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system to be presented to the General Assembly, on an annual basis starting 1 January 2019;

12. *Welcomes with appreciation* the engagement with the Executive Board on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and requests UNDP to continue dialogue with the Executive Board that UNDP continue to update its working plan of engagement in response to the implementation of resolution 72/279;

13. *Recalls* decision 2017/20 on UNDP structured funding dialogues in which UNDP was asked to present a proposal to the Board at the second regular session 2018 on how to improve the functioning of the dialogues;

14. *Encourages* UNDP to allow for increased interactivity with Member States by beginning preparations for the structured funding dialogues early and by providing the Board with a detailed overview with resources linked to outputs in the integrated results and resources framework, 2018-2021 as well as an overview of funding gaps in relation to the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, taking into account both regular and other resources;

15. *Notes* that UNDP did not report on progress against the gender equality strategy for 2017 as in previous years, looks forward to the gender equality strategy presentation at the second regular session 2018 and expects thereafter that yearly reporting on progress against the gender equality strategy will resume in the annual session.

16. *Welcomes* the Administrator's commitment to implementing resolutions 71/243 and 72/279 and in this regard encourages the secretariat of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board to work together with the secretariats of the UNICEF and UN-Women Executive Boards to produce a joint response to the 2018 joint meeting of the Executive Boards segment on working methods by no later than four weeks before the second regular session 2018, allowing for a consultation process among Member States ahead of that session.

8 June 2018

2018/6
UNDP evaluation

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the annual report on evaluation and its addendum (DP/2018/12 and Add.1) and requests UNDP to address the issues raised;

2. *Recalls* decision 2018/1 approving the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) workplan, and encourages the IEO, building on existing work, together with the Administrator and the heads of the associated entities – the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the United Nations Volunteers programme and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation – to ensure that each entity has appropriate monitoring and evaluation frameworks, in line

with UNDP best practice, in particular its fiduciary, transparency and due diligence practices, and to update the Executive Board on this work at the second regular session 2018;

3. *Further recalls* decision 2018/1 and takes note of the importance of joint evaluations with other entities, including joint evaluation of the common chapter of the strategic plans of the funds and programmes, and calls on IEO and UNDP to brief the Executive Board at the second regular session 2018 on planning for this joint evaluation as part of its contribution to broader collaboration on joint evaluations of system-wide activities and to the function of system-wide independent evaluation measures;

4. Recalling decision 2017/12, *notes with concern* the quality of decentralized evaluations and encourages UNDP to work with the IEO to continue its efforts to improve the quality, strategic planning and prioritization of decentralized evaluations, as well as improving the implementation rate and reporting of management responses to the findings;

5. *Calls* on UNDP to continue progress on outstanding recommendations, including with regard to institutional effectiveness, and ensure they take both a risk-informed and result-based approach to implementing those recommendations, as well as to use evaluations as an evidence base for learning and improvement.

8 June 2018

2018/7
Report on results achieved by the United Nations Capital Development Fund in 2017

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report on cumulative and annual results achieved by UNCDF as captured in the report (DP/2018/13);

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards implementation of the new UNCDF strategic framework, 2018-2021 (DP/2018/5);

3. *Commends* the efforts of UNCDF to track its contributions to broader ecosystem and market development impacts and to share lessons from these efforts with Member States and through its peer network, to inform the work of others;

4. *Welcomes* the positioning of UNCDF as an innovator and de-risker of local finance solutions in hard-to-reach and excluded areas, and reiterates the importance of innovative finance solutions for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

5. *Further welcomes* the ongoing efforts of UNCDF to design and test "last mile" financing solutions, including by optimizing its financial toolbox and developing new public and private partnerships;

6. *Notes* the funding scenarios in the new strategic framework and the limitations created due to the shortfall in regular resources, and the impact this has on the number of least developed countries served, the robustness of the UNCDF country presence, its capacity to drive innovation and its capital investment flexibility;

7. *Supports* the funding objectives of UNCDF, including $25 million per year in regular resources, and in this regard calls on Member States in a position to do so to support more equitable burden-sharing in order to help UNCDF to achieve this goal.

8 June 2018

2018/8
United Nations Volunteers programme: Report of the Administrator

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the results-oriented biennial report of the Administrator on the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV) (DP/2018/14);

2. *Expresses appreciation* to all United Nations Volunteers and UN Online Volunteers mobilized by UNV for their outstanding contributions to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during the 2016-2017 biennium;

3. *Commends* UNV for the results achieved under its Strategic Framework, 2014-2017, including during the 2016-2017 biennium;

4. *Welcomes* the new Strategic Framework, 2018-2021 (DP/2018/6), based on the strategic guidance of General Assembly resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and on the findings and recommendations of the independent evaluation of the previous Strategic Framework, taking note of the finalized results matrix;

5. *Welcomes* the organizational transformation of UNV in 2017-2018 and the decentralization of capacities and delegation of authority from headquarters to the regional and country levels, enabling UNV to be better 'fit for purpose' for its new Strategic Framework;

6. Recalling decision 2017/31, paragraph 8, *notes* the importance of regular resources provided by UNDP to deliver on its Strategic Framework;

7. *Reaffirms* the crucial role of the Special Voluntary Fund to the delivery of the UNV Strategic Framework, 2018-2021, calling upon all development partners in a position to do so to contribute to the Fund;

8. *Requests* UNV to report annually to the Executive Board on the delivery of the UNV Strategic Framework.

8 June 2018

2018/9
Draft revised UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the draft revised UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by UNFPA in revising the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021.

3. *Commends* UNFPA for the interactive and transparent engagement with Member States on the integrated budget, and requests UNFPA to continue this engagement on the integrated budget and to inform the Board on the impact of the comprehensive resources review implementation on the budget;

4. *Encourages* UNFPA to align the revised integrated budget, 2018-2021 and to continue to position its organizational structures in the most efficient way to reach the outcomes and outputs as set out in the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, including the organization's mandated work to provide normative guidance to Member States;

5. *Welcomes* the UNFPA resource mobilization ambition to increase funding by $100 million over four years for the integrated budget, 2018-2021, notes with

appreciation the shift from the institutional to the programme budget, and encourages UNFPA to continue to allocate resources to programming;

6. *Requests* UNFPA to conduct risk-informed income projections and budgeting under the integrated budget, 2018-2021, to be adopted at the second regular session 2018, to safeguard appropriate levels of funding at country offices and programmes in order to ensure the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021;

7. *Also requests* further details from UNFPA on its Reserve for Field Accommodation.

8 June 2018

2018/10
Annual report of the UNFPA Executive Director

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the documents that make up the annual report of the Executive Director for 2017: DP/FPA/2018/4 (Part I, Part I/Add.1 and Part II);

2. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by UNFPA in achieving the results of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2014-2017;

3. *Requests* UNFPA to continue to engage with the Secretary-General, other United Nations development system (UNDS) entities and Member States, with a view to support full implementation of General Assembly resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its contribution to a smooth transition and business continuity of the resident coordinator system;

4. *Requests* UNFPA, as a UNDS entity, to engage closely with the Secretary-General and Member States to support preparation of a well-thought-out implementation plan for the inception of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including on the operationalization of its funding arrangements, to be presented to the General Assembly;

5. *Also requests* UNFPA to present a preliminary analysis of the financial and other implications of resolution 72/279 for UNFPA to the Executive Board at the second regular session 2018;

6. *Further requests* UNFPA, in accordance with resolution 72/279, to provide its contribution to the adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system, in line with the forthcoming implementation plan for the inception of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system to be presented to the General Assembly, on an annual basis starting 1 January 2019;

7. *Commends* UNFPA for its work to improve future structured funding dialogues, and in this regard encourages UNFPA to start early the preparations for the dialogues and provide in advance an overview of funding gaps in relation to the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, taking into account both regular and other resources;

8. *Recognizes* the inter-agency efforts being made to advance the common chapter, and requests UNFPA to continue consultations with United Nations funds and programmes on the harmonized format for common chapter reporting;

9. *Welcomes* the mentioning of the common chapter in the annual report, and asks UNFPA to report on the status of the implementation of the common chapter, starting with the annual

report 2019, and to present the findings at the joint meeting of the Executive Boards and at the annual session;

10. *Requests* UNFPA management to brief the Executive Board before the second regular session 2018 on the implementation of the seven recommendations of the evaluation of the architecture supporting the operationalization of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, and to update the Board on any implications of these recommendations for the comprehensive resource review, the integrated budget, and implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021;

11. *Takes note* of progress made implementing decision 2017/14, which emphasized the need for UNFPA to continue to improve transparency in the use of resources to achieve programme results and to enhance organizational effectiveness and efficiency, and which also requested UNFPA to present in its future financial planning and reports a higher level of detail on the way regular (core) resources are attributed and used, and requests UNFPA in its future annual reports to continue to improve the visibility and the results achieved with regular (core) resources;

12. *Encourages* UNFPA to make further progress on results-based budgeting approaches;

13. *Recalls* decision 2017/14 and recognizes the inter-agency efforts made to harmonize the report's methodology and format, in particular on the common chapter, and requests UNFPA to continue consultations with United Nations funds and programmes for further alignment of reporting;

14. *Also recalls* decision 2017/14 and urges UNFPA to continue to align its results architecture with the Sustainable Development Goals framework, in coordination with other United Nations funds and programmes, to help measure performance in supporting implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

15. *Further recalls* decision 2017/14 and requests UNFPA to include in its future annual reports a more detailed analysis and reflection on the challenges and lessons learned per outcome area and on the collaboration and coordination within the United Nations system;

16. *Expresses concern* about the negative effects of decreased regular resources on achieving the outputs of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and in this regard, urges all Member States in a position to do so to increase their contributions to regular resources, also encourages Member States to make contributions during the first half of the year and to make multi-year pledges in order to ensure effective programming, and requests UNFPA to continue to explore incentives and mechanisms to broaden the donor base and attract new sources of funding;

17. *Welcomes* the UNFPA Executive Director's commitment to implementing resolutions 71/243 and 72/279, and in this regard encourages the secretariat of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board to work together with the secretariats of the UNICEF and UN-Women Executive Boards to produce a joint response to the 2018 joint meeting of the Executive Boards segment on working methods by no later than four weeks before the second regular session 2018, allowing for a consultation process among Member States ahead of that session.

8 June 2018

2018/11
UNFPA evaluation

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the present report on the evaluation function of UNFPA, 2017, and of the programme of work and budget of the Evaluation Office in 2018;

2. *Notes* findings from the independent external review of the evaluation function of UNFPA, which indicate that the UNFPA evaluation function is independent at corporate and decentralized levels, and urges UNFPA management to continue to protect and safeguard the qualities of evaluation independence identified by the external review;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made by UNFPA and the significant progress achieved in strengthening the evaluation function and the quality of evaluation in actively contributing to United Nations system-wide evaluation efforts, and in fostering efforts for national evaluation capacity development;

4. *Reaffirms* the role played by the evaluation function at UNFPA and underscores the importance of high-quality, independent evaluation evidence in the context of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5. *Requests* UNFPA to present a revised evaluation policy to the Executive Board at its first regular session 2019;

6. *Recalls* decision 2018/2 and takes note of the importance of joint evaluations with other entities, including joint evaluation of the common chapter of the strategic plans of the funds and programmes, and calls on the Evaluation Office and UNFPA to brief the Executive Board at the second regular session 2018 on planning for this joint evaluation as part of its contribution to broader collaboration on joint evaluations of system-wide activities and to the function of system-wide independent evaluation measures;

7. *Also recalls* decision 2017/15 and encourages UNFPA management to work with the Evaluation Office to continue its efforts to strengthen the implementation rate and coverage of decentralized evaluations, including exploring strategies to protect budgets for small country offices, and to use the evaluations as learning and knowledge management tools to enhance future programmes;

8. *Strongly encourages* UNFPA, in accordance with Evaluation Policy paragraph 32, to reach the target of allocating 3 per cent of the total UNFPA programme budget to the evaluation function by the end of the period of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021.

8 June 2018

2018/12
Annual report of the UNOPS Executive Director

The Executive Board

1. *Recognizes* the contributions of UNOPS to the operational results of Governments, the United Nations and other partners in 2017, through efficient management support services and effective specialized technical expertise, expanding the implementation capacity for sustainable development;

2. *Takes note* of the successful implementation of the UNOPS Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, and the solid implementation platform established on which to initiate the UNOPS Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, to support Member States in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

3. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (DP/2018/2, Annex 4) and the progress made in implementing recommendations relevant to UNOPS;

4. *Requests* UNOPS to continue to engage with the Secretary-General, other United Nations development system (UNDS) entities and Member States with a view to support full implementation of General Assembly resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its contribution to a smooth transition and business continuity of the resident coordinator system;

5. *Also requests* UNOPS to present a preliminary analysis of the financial and other implications of resolution 72/279 for UNOPS to the Executive Board at the second regular session 2018;

6. *Further requests* UNOPS, in accordance with resolution 72/279, to provide its contribution to the adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system, in line with the forthcoming implementation plan for the inception of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system to be presented to the General Assembly, on an annual basis starting 1 January 2019;

7. *Welcomes* the Executive Director's commitment to implementing General Assembly resolutions 71/243 and 72/279 and in this regard encourages the secretariat of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board to work together with the secretariats of the UNICEF and UN-Women Executive Boards to produce a joint response to the 2018 joint meeting of the Executive Boards segment on working methods by no later than four weeks before the second regular session 2018, allowing for a consultation process among Member States ahead of that session.

8 June 2018

2018/13
Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigations and management responses

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* the progress of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in addressing audit-related management issues in 2017;

2. *Notes with appreciation* efforts to implement outstanding audit recommendations from previous reports, and in particular underscores the importance of progressing with implementing recurring high-priority recommendations;

3. *Recalls* decision 2017/17, in which the Board expressed concern about recurring weaknesses for both UNDP and UNFPA related to programme management, procurement, governance and financial management, notes that similar challenges have been identified in the 2017 reports, and underscores the urgent need to intensify efforts to address these issues;

4. *Also recalls* decision 2015/13 and the request by the Board for the offices of audit and investigation to provide a view on whether the resourcing of their function is appropriate, sufficient and effectively deployed to achieve the desired internal audit coverage;

With regard to UNDP:

5. *Takes note* of the report on internal audit and investigations (document DP/2018/15);

6. *Expresses* continuing support for strengthening the internal audit and investigation functions of UNDP;

7. *Expresses* continuing support for strengthening the internal audit and investigation functions of UNDP, takes note of the annual report of the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee, commends UNDP for raising its overall audit opinion to satisfactory, and asks the Office of Audit and Investigation to provide further supporting analysis for such opinions in future annual reports, including the impact of their own risk assessments as well as an analysis of how complaints are reported to the Office of Audit and Investigation;

8. *Requests* UNDP to provide better comparative year-on-year information showing where losses incurred in one year are recovered in a subsequent year, and provide the Board with details, broken down by calendar year, of losses over prior years and cumulative recoveries to date against each year's losses by the second regular session 2018;

9. *Requests* UNDP to provide the Executive Board with an update on the implementation of a comprehensive anti-fraud strategy, including how this will be appropriately resourced from within UNDP, at the first regular session 2019;

10. *Recalls* decision 2017/17 and while welcoming the organization's work on anti-fraud systems and processes and efforts to identify obstacles that are hindering recovery, notes with concern the low levels of defrauded funds recovered in 2017, and urges UNDP to do all it can to ensure the timely recovery of defrauded funds;

11. *Encourages* the Office of Audit and Investigation, building on the existing work and in collaboration with the Administrator and the heads of the associated entities – the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the United Nations Volunteers programme and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation – to ensure that each entity has appropriate oversight, monitoring and risk-management frameworks, in line with UNDP best practice, in particular its fiduciary, transparency and due diligence practices, and to update the Executive Board on this work at the second regular session 2018;

12. *Also requests* UNDP to focus efforts on improving investigation timelines, including related resourcing, noting the increasing number of cases due for investigation carried over from year to year;

13. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee;

With regard to UNFPA:

14. *Takes note* of the report on internal audit and investigation activities of the UNFPA Office of Audit and Investigation Services (DP/FPA/2017/6), the opinion, based on the scope of work undertaken, on the adequacy and effectiveness of the UNFPA framework of governance, risk management and internal control processes, of 'some improvement needed' (DP/FPA/2017/6/Add.1), the annual report of the Audit Advisory Committee (DP/FPA/2017/6/Add.2), and the management response (DP/FPA/2017/CRP.4) thereto and to the present report;

15. *Expresses its continuing support* for the audit and investigation functions at UNFPA, and urges UNFPA to ensure the Office of Audit and Investigation Services is appropriately and sufficiently resourced to deliver its mandates, including ensuring adequate audit coverage and to efficiently handle its caseload of investigations;

16. *Acknowledges and supports* the engagement of the Office of Audit and Investigation Services in joint audit and investigation activities, and encourages continued support to UNFPA management and relevant inter-agency fora in their efforts to address sexual exploitation and sexual harassment;

17. *Welcomes* progress made in implementing audit recommendations, and urges UNFPA to continue to reduce the number of outstanding audit recommendations and expedite

progress in the areas the opinion identified as requiring improvement, including the integrated control framework, enterprise risk management, organizational structure and staffing, headquarters and regional office support and oversight, programme management, including supply-chain management, implementing partner capacity and financial monitoring, and operations management;

18. *Notes with concern* the apparently limited and slow pace of recovery of losses, and asks UNFPA to complement information provided on cases with further details, broken down by calendar year, of aggregate losses over prior years and cumulative recoveries to date against each year's losses;

19. *Urges* UNFPA to ensure timely follow-up by the relevant disciplinary bodies, including the Vendor Review Committee, to investigation reports issued by Office of Audit and Investigation Services;

20. *Requests* UNFPA to focus efforts on improving investigation timelines, including related resourcing, noting the increasing number of cases due for investigation carried over from year to year.

With regard to UNOPS:

21. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Internal Audit and Investigations Group for 2017 and the management response thereto;

22. *Also takes note* of the progress made in implementation of audit recommendations;

23. *Further takes note* of the overall audit opinion noting 'major improvements needed', based on the scope of work undertaken, on the adequacy and effectiveness of the organization's framework of governance, risk management and control (in line with Executive Board decision 2015/13);

24. *Urges* management to continue to address observations and recommendations made by the internal auditor in order to reduce UNOPS risk exposure and improve the overall audit opinion in future years;

25. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Audit Advisory Committee for 2017 (in line with Executive Board decision 2008/37).

8 June 2018

2018/14
Reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS (DP/2018/16, DP/FPA/2018/7 and DP/OPS/2018/4);

2. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by the ethics office of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in strengthening the ethical culture in the three organizations, including training, raising ethics awareness and protection against retaliation, and supports the recommendations made to management;

3. *Requests* the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, in collaboration with their ethics offices as well as the heads of the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the United Nations Volunteers programme and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, to ensure that programmes to strengthen ethical culture, including training, raising ethics awareness and protection against retaliation, and combat sexual harassment, are provided, and to provide an update of this work to the Board by its second regular session 2018;

4. *Notes* the importance of well supported and resourced ethics offices, and encourages the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to consider further increases in staffing support, reflecting the increased needs of the organizations;

5. *Supports* the 'zero tolerance' of the heads of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS towards sexual harassment, and appreciates the actions UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS have taken so far to prevent and manage sexual harassment, to implement further institutional and cultural changes, and to ensure a joined-up, system-wide, coherent approach;

6. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS management, as required under the Secretary General's report on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, to present their respective annual certification to the Executive Board at each annual session, to cover sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment, as appropriate, complementing and strengthening their existing reporting, and to provide updates on progress made in that regard, including working with the United Nations Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate; and further urges UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to consider how to align reporting formats and content with other agencies, where appropriate;

7. *Encourages* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS management to undertake, using existing resources under the integrated budget 2018-2021, an independent victim-centred review of their respective policies and processes on tackling both sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, to review the current practices of the three organizations and provide recommendations on both issues, and requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to present the review and associated management responses to the Executive Board at its annual session 2019;

8. *Requests* the UNDP Ethics Office to report on the implementation of the new policy on protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized audits or investigations in its 2019 report.

8 June 2018

2018/15
Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session 2018

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its annual session 2018, it:

Item 1
Organizational matters

Adopted the agenda and approved the workplan for its annual session 2018 (DP/2018/L.2);

Approved the report of the first regular session 2018 (DP/2018/8);

Approved the tentative workplan for the second regular session 2018;

UNDP segment

Item 2
Annual report of the Administrator

Adopted decision 2018/5 on the report of the UNDP Administrator on results for 2017 and progress on the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021.

Item 3
South-South cooperation

Took note of the strategic framework of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, 2018-2021 (DP/CF/SSC/6).

Item 4
Human Development Report

Took note of the update on the Human Development Report consultations.

Item 5
UNDP country programmes and related matters

Approved the following country programmes in accordance with decision 2014/7: Kenya (DP/DCP/KEN/3), Malawi (DP/DCP/MWI/3) and Rwanda (DP/DCP/RWA/2);

Took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Kuwait, Republic of the Congo and Sierra Leone, already approved by the Administrator (DP/2018/11);

Approved the second one-year extension of the country programme for the Syrian Arab Republic (DP/2018/11).

Item 6
Evaluation

Adopted decision 2018/6 on UNDP evaluation.

Item 7
United Nations Capital Development Fund

Adopted decision 2018/7 on the report on results achieved by the United Nations Capital Development Fund in 2017.

Item 8
United Nations Volunteers

Adopted decision 2018/8 on the United Nations Volunteers programme: report of the Administrator.

UNFPA segment

Item 9
Consultation on the revised integrated budget, 2018-2021, including change management

Adopted decision 2018/9 on the draft revised UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021.

Item 10
Annual report of the UNFPA Executive Director

Adopted decision 2018/10 on the annual report of the UNFPA Executive Director.

Item 11
UNFPA country programmes and related matters

Approved the following country programmes in accordance with decision 2014/7: Kenya (DP/FPA/CPD/KEN/9) and Rwanda (DP/FPA/CPD/RWA/8);
Took note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Cuba, already approved by the Executive Director; and

Approved the second one-year extension of the country programme for the Syrian Arab Republic (DP/FPA/2018/3).

Item 12
UNFPA evaluation

Adopted decision 2018/11 on UNFPA evaluation.

UNOPS segment

Item 13
United Nations Office for Project Services

Adopted decision 2018/12 on the annual report of the UNOPS Executive Director.

Joint segment

Item 15
Internal audit and oversight

Adopted decision 2018/13 on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigations and management responses.

Item 16
Reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS

Adopted decision 2018/14 on the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS.

Item 17
Other matters

Also held the following briefings, informal consultations and special events:

UNDP

UNCDF briefing on findings and lessons learned from recent evaluations;

UNFPA

Tribute to the late Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of UNFPA;
Briefing on population dynamics and sustainable development in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

8 June 2018

TENTATIVE WORKPLAN
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION 2018
(4 – 7 September 2018, New York)

Day/date	*Time*	*Item*	*Subject*
Tuesday, 4 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session • Adoption of the report of the annual session 2018 **UNFPA segment** STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
	3 – 5:45 p.m.	7	STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (cont'd) UNFPA INTEGRATED BUDGET, 2018-2021 *(D)* • Revision of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021
	5:45 – 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Wednesday, 5 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	6	**UNFPA segment (cont'd)** STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE *(D)* • Report on contributions by Member States and others to UNFPA and revenue projections for 2018 and future years
		2	**UNDP segment** STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE *(D)* • Annual review of the financial situation, 2017 • Status of regular funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2018 and onwards
	3 - 4:30 p.m.	9	**UNOPS segment** STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • Annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system organizations, 2017 *(D)* • UNOPS response to the Joint Inspection Unit review of management and administration in the United Nations Office for Project Service
	4:30 – 5:45 p.m.	8	**UNFPA segment (cont'd)** UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes
	5:45 – 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Thursday, 6 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		**UNDP segment (cont'd)** STATEMENT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR
	3 –5:45 p.m.	3	STATEMENT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR (cont'd) GENDER EQUALITY AT UNDP *(D)* • UNDP gender equality strategy, 2018-2021

	5:45 - 6 p.m.		*Informal consultations on draft decisions*
Friday, 7 September	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	4	UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes
		5	EVALUATION *(D)* • Evaluation of the UNDP inter-agency pooled financing and operational services and management response • Evaluation capacity development • Synthesis and methods of independent country programme evaluations
			Joint segment
		10	FOLLOW-UP TO UNAIDS PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD MEETING • Joint UNDP/UNFPA report on follow-up to recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS
	3 - 6 p.m.	11	FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS • Joint report on cost recovery *(D)* • Report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on joint procurement activities
		12	WORKING METHODS OF THE BOARD *(D)*
		13	FIELD VISITS • Report on the joint field visit to Uganda • Report on the Executive Board field visit to Haiti
		14	OTHER MATTERS • Address by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/UN-Women Staff Council • Adoption of pending decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Draft annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2019 • Adoption of the tentative workplans for the first regular session 2019